THE STATE OF
SION COLLEGE
LONDON, 1681.

THe ſaid College was founded by Dr. *Thomas White*, Vicar of St. *Dunſtans* in the Weſt, *&c.* and confirmed by the Charters of the Kings, *Charles* the Firſt and Second. It is governed by a Preſident, two Deans, and four Aſſiſtants, annually choſen out of the Miniſters of *London*, who are all Fellows of the ſaid College.

It conſiſts of a Hall, Library, other publick Rooms, Chambers for Students, and a Hoſpital for twenty poor aged People, men and women.

In the dreadful Fire of *London* all the Buildings were conſumed, a third part of the Books burnt, and Rents loſt to the yearly value of one hundred and ſix Pounds, ſix Shillings.

By the Charity of ſeveral worthy Benefactors (whoſe names are to be ſeen in the Publick Regiſter kept in the Library) the ſaid Library and Hoſpital were ſoon rebuilt in as good or better manner than before the Fire; The Hall and publick Rooms are brought up to the Roof, and covered. There hath been already expended in theſe Works the Sum of Two Thouſand Pounds and upwards, and it will require about Four Hundred Pounds more to finiſh them.

Beſides the great loſs of Rents, before-mentioned, the Lands which were appropriated to the maintenance of the Poor are within theſe few years ſunk from One hundred and twenty to Seventy Pounds *per annum*; ſo that the Penſions of the Poor which were formerly Six Pounds *per annum*, are now fallen to Three pounds ten. And though the Salaries of the Clerk and other Officers have been leſſened, and divers other Expences wholly taken away, the College is yet indebted near Four hundred pounds.

It is therefore humbly recommended to all the lovers of Piety and Learning, as a proper object for their charity and munificence, that by their aſſiſtance the debts of the ſaid College may be diſcharged, the remaining part of the Buildings finiſhed, and the Poor receive the ſame comfortable allowances which they formerly enjoyed.

And for the ſpeedy finiſhing of the Buildings, it may be conſidered that it will be much for the credit of this Honourable City, not to ſuffer any part of the ſaid College to lie in ruines, here being the only publick Library in *London*, whither divers Strangers and Foreiners are wont to reſort.

Thoſe who ſhall be pleaſed to contribute any thing towards all or any of the purpoſes herein expreſſed, are deſired to lodge their Charity in the hands of ſome of the Governours, or other Miniſters of *London*, to be delivered to ſome of the Governours for the time being, to be by them imployed according to the intent of the Donors.